

REMARKS

Claims remaining in the present patent application are numbered 1-27. The rejections and comments of the Examiner set forth in the Office Action dated October 7, 2002 have been carefully considered by the Applicants. Applicants respectfully request the Examiner to consider and allow the remaining claims.

Drawing Objections

Figure 1B has been objected to because the reference character "64" was not labeled in an appropriately descriptive manner. Applicants have amended appropriate paragraphs in the Specification that refers to reference character "64" as a signal from a wireless infrared communication mechanism to address the aforementioned objection. As such, reference character "64" is now labeled in an appropriately descriptive manner. No new material has been added.

Figure 9 was objected to because the reference character "940" as shown in Figure 9 was not mentioned in the description. Applicants have amended appropriate paragraphs in the Specification that refers to reference character "940" to address the aforementioned objection. No new material has been added.

Specification Objections

The abstract was objected to because the sentence starting "Specifically, in one embodiment of the present invention," on lines 7-9, is directed at the specifics of the invention. Applicants have amended the abstract to address the objection so that the abstract is directed to the entire disclosure as a whole.

In addition, the abstract was objected to because the word "Manger" on line 18 is misspelled. The Applicants have appropriately corrected the misspelling.

Claim Objections

Claims 4 and 21, as well as their dependent Claims 5 and 22, respectively, were objected to because of grammatical informalities. Claims 4 and 21 have herein been amended to correct the grammatical informalities. As a result, dependent Claims 5 and 22, have also overcome the objection.

35 U.S.C. §102 Rejection

The present Office Action rejected Claims 1-2, 10-13, 16-19, and 27 under 35 U.S.C. §102(e), as being anticipated by Vong et al. (U.S. Patent no. 6,209,011). Applicants have reviewed the cited reference and respectfully contends that the cited reference neither teaches nor suggests the presently claimed invention.

Independent Claims 1, 11, and 18

Independent Claims 1, 11, and 18 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by Vong et al.

Independent Claims 1, 11, and 18 each recite, in part:

[A] method of notification comprising the steps of:

receiving a first attention request from a first application that is associated with a first record entry in said first application requiring attention from a user;

. . .
automatically sending a first request for information to said first application, said information associated with said first record entry;
creating a notification dialog for displaying said information, wherein said first application fills in said information in said notification dialog . . . (Emphasis Added)

Embodiments of the present invention, as claimed in independent Claims 1, 11, and 18 disclose a method of notification, wherein a notification dialog is created for displaying information that is associated with a first record entry that is triggering an attention request. In particular, the notification dialog is jointly created by the first application that is associated with the first record entry. (See Specification, page 32, lines 13-20) That is, the first application jointly creates the notification dialog by generating and filling in information in the notification dialog.

On the other hand, the Vong et al. reference is directed to a notification system on a handheld device that focuses on an external notification mechanism that is activated upon occurrence of an event and remains active until the user acknowledges the activated mechanism. In particular, the Vong et al. reference discloses a notification dialog box that is displayed upon the occurrence of an event. The notification dialog box is a user configurable structure that follows a certain format. That is, the user creates a user configurable structure that holds notification options preferred by the user.

For instance, the user configurable structure in the Vong et al. reference may contain text that is defined by the user, an option to sound an alarm, a selection to have an alarm repeated, etc. The notification dialog box as disclosed by the Vong et al. reference is user configured and displayed in a particular format. As such, text space within the notification dialog box must contain text that is user defined.

In contrast, embodiments of the present invention, as claimed in independent Claims 1, 11, and 18 disclose a method for notification, wherein a notification dialog that is displayed concurrently with a request for attention is jointly filled in by the application that is associated with

the entry generating the attention request. That is, the notification dialog of embodiments of the present invention does not disclose a user configurable structure as a notification dialog box.

In particular, the notification dialog of embodiments of the present invention as claimed in independent Claims 1, 11, and 18 displays information that is generated by the application that is associated with the entry generating the attention request, which is in direct contrast to the Vong et al. reference. The information is not configured by the user, but is selectable and generated from the application. As such, the information may include text and/or graphics (e.g., icons) that is totally selectable by the application, and not the user. As a result, the notification dialog is not restricted to the display of information in a particular format, as in the Vong et al. reference. Instead, the notification dialog is configured by the application, and contains information, such as, text or graphics, in the same dialog space.

Thus, Applicants respectfully submit that the Vong et al. reference does not show nor suggest embodiments of the method of the present invention as recited in independent Claims 1, 11, and 18. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit that independent Claim 1 overcomes the cited reference, and as such Claims 2-10 which depend on

independent Claim 1 are also in a condition for allowance as being dependent on an allowable base claim. In addition, Applicants respectfully submit that independent Claim 11 overcomes the cited reference, and as such, Claims 12-17 which depend on independent Claim 11 are also in a condition for allowance as being dependent on an allowable base claim. Moreover, Applicants respectfully submit that independent Claim 18 overcomes the cited reference, and as such, Claims 19-27 which depend on independent Claim 18 are also in a condition for allowance as being dependent on an allowable base claim.

35 U.S.C. §103 Rejection

The present Office Action rejected Claims 3-9, 14-15, and 20-26 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over the Vong et al. reference and further in view of Chari et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,553,416). Claims 3-9, 14-15, and 20-26 each depend on one of the independent Claims 1, 11, and 18, which are in a condition for allowance given the arguments set forth in the discussion directed to the 35 U.S.C. §102(e) objection. As such, Applicants respectfully submit that dependent Claims 3-9, 14-15, and 20-26, which each depend on one of the now allowable independent Claims 1, 11, and 18 are also in a condition for allowance as being dependent on an allowable base claim.

CONCLUSION

In light of the facts and arguments presented herein,
Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the
rejected Claims.

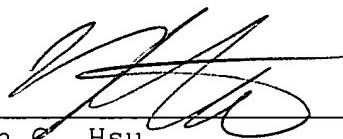
Based on the arguments presented above, Applicants
respectfully assert that Claims 1-27 overcome the rejections
of record. Therefore, Applicants respectfully solicit
allowance of these Claims.

The Examiner is invited to contact Applicants'
undersigned representative if the Examiner believes such
action would expedite resolution of the present Application.

Respectfully submitted,

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